# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4929
ANSWERED ON:20.12.2000
BORDER TALKS
RAMDAS ATHAWALE

**Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

(a) whether Chinese Deputy Foreign Minister has held India responsible for tardy progress in Indo-Sino border talks;

(b) if so, the factual position thereof;

(c) the Government`s reaction thereto;

(d) whether any meeting/dialogue on border dispute issue has been held with other neighbouring countries excluding China during the last three years; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)

(a) No, Sir.

(b)-(c) Does not arise.

(d)-(e) As part of the composite dialogue process, India and Pakistan held talks on Sir Creek in New Delhi on 9th November, 1998. During these discussions Government pointed out that the boundary in the Sir Creek area had already been settled by the Resolution of 1914. Maps published in 1925, when demarcation on the basis of the 1914 Resolution was completed, showed the boundary in the middle of the Sir Creek. Government proposed that as the boundary had already been accepted as settled by both India and Pakistan, this already settled and demarcated boundary should be formalized. Government further proposed that pending formalization of the boundary in the Sir Creek, delimitation of the India Pakistan maritime boundary from seawards,commencing at the exclusive Economic Zone limit and proceeding landwards could be considered.

At the India-Bangladesh Foreign Secretary-level talks held in New Delhi on December 13-14, 2000, detailed discussions were held on pending matters relating to the India-Bangladesh Land Boundary Agreement of 1974. Both sides agreed to co-operate with a view to achieving early resolution of all boundary related matters. For this purpose, the Foreign Secretaries decided to set up Working Groups to deal with the completion of demarcation, and the exchange of enclaves and territories in adverse possession. The Working Groups would systematically address these matters and report to the Foreign Secretaries on a regular basis.
Matters concerning boundary demarcation and maintenance of boundary pillars etc. have also been discussed by survey officials of the two countries who hold regular meetings.

The `Boundary agreement between the Government of India and the Government of Union of Myanmar` concerning the demarcation of land boundary of the two countries and related matters was signed on March 10, 1967. Matters relating to joint inspection, repairs, maintenance and restoration of boundary pillars were discussed at a meeting of the Surveyors General of two countries in November 1999. A meeting of concerned officials was held at Moreh (Manipur) on November 15, 2000, to discuss the implementation of the joint work plan for 2000-2001.

The India-Nepal Joint Technical Committee on Boundary has been assigned the task of scientifically delineating the India-Nepal boundary. The Committee has had three Meetings in the last three years; 21st Meeting in November, 1998, 22nd Meeting in November, 1999 and the 23rd Meeting in December, 2000.